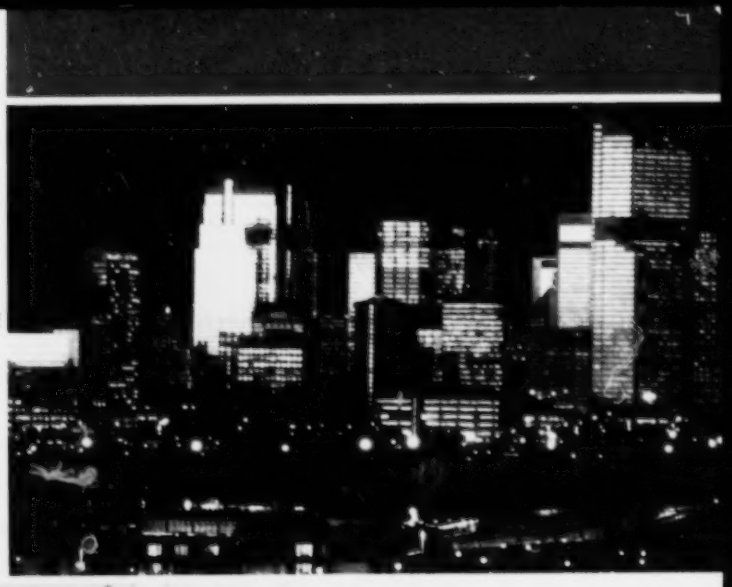

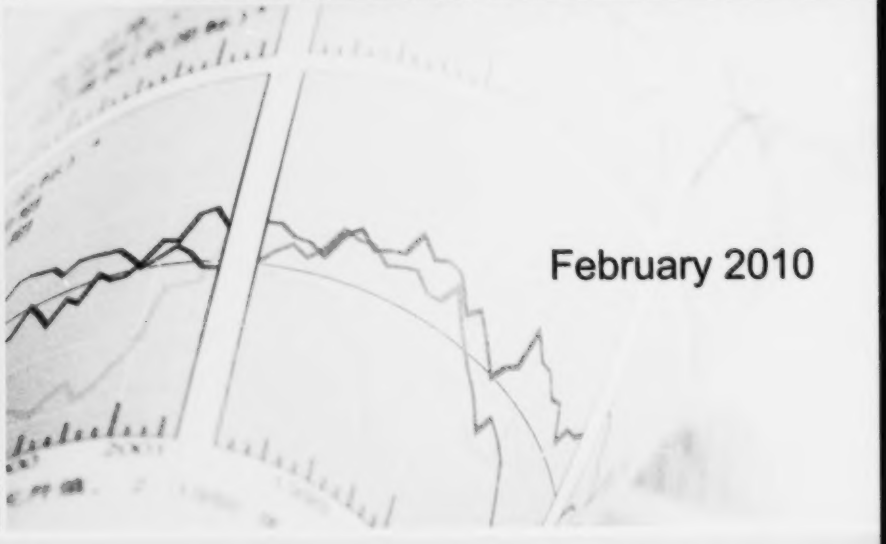

Alberta's International Merchandise Exports

February 2010

January to December 2009

Alberta

Alberta's International Merchandise Exports
January – December 2009
Highlights

Overview

In 2009, Alberta's international goods exports fell by 37.3% in 2008 to $69.1 billion. Large decreases were noted for sulphur, natural gas, crude oil, chemicals and metals. Exports of wood products, such as lumber and oriented strand board, continued to decline, reaching a 14-year low. Export volumes fell by an estimated 4% in 2009, mainly as a result of large volume declines for gas and gas liquids, sulphur, live cattle and styrene.

In the fourth quarter of 2009, the value of exports fell by 31.0% from the same quarter last year, to an estimated $17.8 billion. This decline was largely the result of lower exports of natural gas, propane, sulphur, coal, polyethylene, and boring and sinking machinery and parts (for use in oil and gas fields).

Major Commodities

In 2009, exports of crude oil, nickel, canola, wheat and ethylene polymers decreased as a result of falling prices. Even though crude oil exports fell sharply because of lower prices, oil export volumes rose 1.3% in 2009. Wheat volumes rose 24.2%. Natural gas, propane, ethylene glycol, live cattle, lumber and sulphur exports declined on both lower prices and volumes. Commodities with higher export values in 2009 included diesel fuel and fuel oils (up 14.9%), unrefined canola oil (up 62.3%) and compressors (up 17.5%).

Exports by Industry

In 2009, export declines were registered in all industries. The mining and energy industry registered the largest decline of 43.0%, as a result of lower exports of sulphur (down 84.9%), natural gas and gas liquids (down 53.0%) and crude oil (down 35.7%). Manufacturing exports decreased by 23.7% due to declines in all sectors. The largest declines were posted for primary metal products (down 40.2%), computer and electronic products (down 39.2%), chemicals (down 33.0%), and plastic and rubber products (down 32.9%). Primary agricultural exports fell 13.7%, due to declines of 13.8% and 13.5% in crop and livestock shipments.

Exports by Country

Alberta exports to South Korea, Singapore, Saudi Arabia and Iraq increased in 2009. However, exports to the 11 other top 15 markets declined. Exports to the U.S., China and Japan (Alberta's top three markets) fell by 40.0%, 13.8% and 20.3%, respectively. Exports to the U.S. fell primarily as a result of lower oil and gas exports. Exports to China fell because of lower exports of ethylene glycol and sulphur, while exports to Japan fell due to lower exports of canola, wheat and cobalt. Exports to Mexico fell 7.7% as a result of lower canola exports. Exports to South Korea rose 3%, as a result of higher coal exports. Exports to Singapore, Saudi Arabia and Iraq increased by 14.9%, 17.9% and 227.7%, respectively, due to increased sales of ethylene polymers (Singapore) and wheat (Saudi Arabia and Iraq).

ALBERTA'S INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS TO TOP 50 COUNTRIES/MARKETS

	Fourth Quarter			January to December		
Countries/Markets	**2008 ($ '000)**	**2009 ($ '000)**	**% Change**	**2008 ($ '000)**	**2009 ($ '000)**	**% Change**
United States	22,724,367	15,300,134	-32.7%	96,649,220	58,017,431	-40.0%
China	494,351	646,926	30.9%	3,079,594	2,655,831	-13.8%
Japan	530,380	401,530	-24.3%	2,030,755	1,619,006	-20.3%
Mexico	330,549	201,078	-39.2%	1,077,123	994,385	-7.7%
Korea, South	132,308	120,556	-8.9%	517,303	532,622	3.0%
Netherlands	98,666	103,003	4.4%	342,977	301,242	-12.2%
Australia	84,842	65,200	-23.2%	413,866	250,033	-39.6%
Singapore	27,961	44,544	59.3%	190,396	218,854	14.9%
Saudi Arabia	23,095	53,313	130.8%	173,352	204,452	17.9%
Russia	68,906	46,513	-32.5%	213,851	200,649	-6.2%
Brazil	38,974	44,031	13.0%	471,250	194,443	-58.7%
Iraq	4,183	7,663	83.2%	58,371	191,258	227.7%
Indonesia	70,433	28,723	-59.2%	322,794	179,370	-44.4%
United Arab Emirates	74,752	53,662	-28.2%	225,907	174,854	-22.6%
United Kingdom	52,228	34,994	-33.0%	218,360	161,627	-26.0%
Taiwan	42,609	37,196	-12.7%	231,804	156,682	-32.4%
Italy	38,570	30,953	-19.7%	161,348	151,651	-6.0%
Venezuela	45,991	32,782	-28.7%	155,535	125,546	-19.3%
Bangladesh	13,679	20,000	46.2%	68,842	123,399	79.2%
India	18,074	18,105	0.2%	85,473	121,611	42.3%
Colombia	29,972	19,432	-35.2%	99,357	117,983	18.7%
Iran	136,853	929	-99.3%	195,178	111,766	-42.7%
Chile	28,167	12,366	-56.1%	142,572	108,044	-24.2%
Sri Lanka	21,089	22,041	4.5%	127,836	100,258	-21.6%
Hong Kong	21,683	25,887	19.4%	106,974	99,199	-7.3%
Peru	7,787	19,538	150.9%	64,175	94,808	47.7%
Philippines	17,923	27,823	55.2%	73,043	91,188	24.8%
Pakistan	24,178	3,109	-87.1%	167,341	89,413	-46.6%
Belgium	44,559	21,476	-51.8%	178,750	85,800	-52.0%
Oman	33,618	17,485	-48.0%	66,654	84,363	26.6%
Germany	28,962	13,434	-53.6%	82,069	84,011	2.4%
France	24,253	18,899	-22.1%	93,945	80,480	-14.3%
Thailand	21,572	16,919	-21.6%	94,114	78,740	-16.3%
Ecuador	9,704	17,035	75.6%	44,139	72,599	64.5%
Switzerland	11,142	14,465	29.8%	42,698	68,800	61.1%
Libya	9,318	4,809	-48.4%	38,594	66,820	73.1%
Algeria	22,502	13,115	-41.7%	135,575	60,946	-55.0%
Malaysia	14,346	11,740	-18.2%	119,260	60,217	-49.5%
Morocco	14,869	11,923	-19.8%	38,652	48,022	24.2%
New Zealand	17,941	11,841	-34.0%	80,866	46,888	-42.0%
South Africa	40,781	10,478	-74.3%	232,565	44,549	-80.8%
Egypt	26,436	8,947	-66.2%	84,449	43,407	-48.6%
Spain	13,444	15,734	17.0%	47,281	43,035	-9.0%
Sudan	18,325	10,064	-45.1%	83,003	39,342	-52.6%
Guatemala	3,969	22,638	470.4%	11,714	39,120	234.0%
Norway	9,427	9,150	-2.9%	38,193	38,599	1.1%
Cuba	14,016	2,631	-81.2%	86,515	36,567	-57.7%
Nigeria	6,722	9,189	36.7%	12,816	36,461	184.5%
Ghana	6,185	6,996	13.1%	34,781	35,321	1.6%
Kazakhstan	10,536	5,243	-50.2%	96,675	29,895	-69.1%
All Other Countries	216,184	131,935	-39.0%	14,573	23,263	59.6%
Total Exports	**25,821,379**	**17,828,177**	**-31.0%**	**110,172,866**	**69,064,980**	**-37.3%**

ALBERTA EXPORTS TO ALL MARKETS BY INDUSTRY

EXPORTS BY INDUSTRY	Fourth Quarter			January to December		
	2008 ($ '000)	2009 ($ '000)	% Change	2008 ($ '000)	2009 ($ '000)	% Change
Primary Agriculture	**1,297,338**	**948,350**	**-26.9%**	**5,152,518**	**4,445,555**	**-13.7%**
Crops	1,136,894	828,294	-27.1%	4,479,135	3,862,884	-13.8%
Livestock	160,444	120,056	-25.2%	673,383	582,671	-13.5%
Primary Forestry, Fishing & Trapping	**991**	**750**	**-24.4%**	**4,304**	**3,627**	**-15.7%**
Mining & Energy	**18,450,670**	**12,420,932**	**-32.7%**	**80,648,801**	**45,985,061**	**-43.0%**
Crude Oil	11,181,291	8,930,293	-20.1%	47,798,042	30,734,189	-35.7%
Natural Gas & Natural Gas Liquids	6,794,134	3,252,528	-52.1%	30,168,031	14,191,732	-53.0%
Coal	223,224	147,083	-34.1%	660,210	705,912	6.9%
Sulphur	226,335	76,968	-66.0%	1,896,601	287,166	-84.9%
Other Mining & Energy	25,687	14,059	-45.3%	125,918	66,061	-47.5%
Manufacturing	**5,860,898**	**4,276,314**	**-27.0%**	**23,413,457**	**17,874,596**	**-23.7%**
Chemicals	1,939,395	1,336,346	-31.1%	8,001,706	5,359,307	-33.0%
Machinery	843,474	678,483	-19.6%	3,157,905	3,047,623	-3.5%
Food, Feed & Beverage	986,114	509,746	-48.3%	3,514,938	2,824,183	-19.7%
Primary Metal Products	329,304	264,109	-19.8%	1,824,005	1,091,586	-40.2%
Paper Products & Wood Pulp	398,625	360,806	-9.5%	1,580,199	1,289,427	-18.4%
Petroleum & Coal Products	359,776	435,636	21.1%	1,434,607	1,260,193	-12.2%
Computer & Electronic Products	205,698	120,449	-41.4%	906,136	550,860	-39.2%
Fabricated Metal Products	168,626	140,079	-16.9%	614,970	555,339	-9.7%
Wood Products	224,245	144,229	-35.7%	792,061	641,652	-19.0%
Transportation Equipment	136,974	130,379	-4.8%	536,259	494,017	-7.9%
Electrical Equipment, App. & Comp.	83,463	42,946	-48.5%	295,705	217,192	-26.6%
Plastics & Rubber Products	57,280	40,567	-29.2%	273,959	183,804	-32.9%
Furniture & Related Products	44,110	21,510	-51.2%	165,015	112,162	-32.0%
Non-Metallic Mineral Products	26,025	22,282	-14.4%	103,132	100,887	-2.2%
Other Manufacturing	57,787	28,748	-50.3%	212,860	146,364	-31.2%
Other Exports	**211,481**	**181,830**	**-14.0%**	**953,786**	**756,140**	**-20.7%**
TOTAL	**25,821,379**	**17,828,176**	**-31.0%**	**110,172,866**	**69,064,979**	**-37.3%**

ALBERTA'S TOP 50 COMMODITY EXPORTS TO THE WORLD

	Fourth Quarter			January to December		
Commodities	**2008 ($ '000)**	**2009 ($ '000)**	**% Change**	**2008 ($ '000)**	**2009 ($ '000)**	**% Change**
Crude Oil	11,181,275	8,930,289	-20.1%	47,797,950	30,733,999	-35.7%
Natural Gas	6,212,683	2,855,705	-54.0%	28,147,859	12,927,545	-54.1%
Wheat (other than durum wheat)	490,710	345,740	-29.5%	2,066,530	1,832,077	-11.3%
Polymers of ethylene nes, in primary forms	453,576	385,505	-15.0%	2,040,756	1,610,239	-21.1%
Low erucic acid canola seeds	413,451	337,983	-18.3%	1,491,892	1,328,514	-11.0%
Propane, liquefied	518,589	356,747	-31.2%	1,804,396	1,060,178	-41.2%
Ethylene glycol	217,650	223,017	2.5%	1,237,149	759,927	-38.6%
Heavy oil (not crude), e.g. diesel	142,699	275,845	93.3%	639,460	734,426	14.9%
Meat of bovine animals, boneless, fresh or chilled	222,198	150,371	-32.3%	805,075	716,577	-11.0%
Parts for boring or sinking machinery, nes	238,327	94,265	-60.4%	835,043	682,011	-18.3%
Polyethylene having a spec gravity ≥ 0.94	239,484	130,131	-45.7%	990,272	678,011	-31.5%
Bituminous coal	221,374	143,592	-35.1%	646,050	653,325	1.1%
Chemical woodpulp, coniferous	172,056	157,342	-8.6%	655,322	553,333	-15.6%
Nickel, unwrought	126,376	155,570	23.1%	679,725	517,489	-23.9%
Bovine animals, live, nes	133,658	96,638	-27.7%	557,978	480,434	-13.9%
Urea	184,827	108,749	-41.2%	628,797	456,652	-27.4%
Low value export transactions and confidential comm.	161,019	121,599	-24.5%	625,702	448,218	-28.4%
Chemical woodpulp, nonconiferous	130,513	130,788	0.2%	546,892	442,334	-19.1%
Canola oil and fractions, low erucic acid, crude	37,320	69,327	85.8%	252,194	409,244	62.3%
Air/gas pumps, compressors and fans, nes	78,963	57,225	-27.5%	287,757	338,087	17.5%
Anhydrous ammonia	221,716	57,845	-73.9%	662,696	306,353	-53.8%
Lumber, coniferous, over 6mm thick	90,473	80,686	-10.8%	344,342	297,143	-13.7%
Sulphur	226,335	76,968	-66.0%	1,896,601	287,166	-84.9%
Turbopropellers not exceeding 1,100 Kw	73,169	82,156	12.3%	253,339	281,294	11.0%
Durum wheat	99,187	52,967	-46.6%	331,931	270,073	-18.6%
Potatoes, prepared, frozen	60,003	55,018	-8.3%	218,063	242,252	11.1%
Ethylene, popylene, butylene and butadiene, liquified	117,609	77,104	-34.4%	381,859	239,786	-37.2%
Malt	66,477	44,261	-33.4%	243,969	223,463	-8.4%
Styrene	130,327	61,956	-52.5%	530,303	203,846	-61.6%
Butanes, liquefied	62,686	39,939	-36.3%	214,799	203,493	-5.3%
Boring or sinking machinery, not self-propelled	70,915	20,047	-71.7%	333,521	199,000	-40.3%
Barley	62,285	35,406	-43.2%	323,927	195,705	-39.6%
Acyclic hydrocarbons, saturated	84,069	44,508	-47.1%	319,170	194,117	-39.2%
Machines/mechanical appl w. individual function	65,405	42,908	-34.4%	230,365	189,088	-17.9%
Polyethylene having a specific gravity < 0.94	45,094	47,611	5.6%	259,142	180,780	-30.2%
Pork, nes, fresh or chilled	45,536	46,209	1.5%	157,090	179,485	14.3%
Taps, cocks for pipes, vats incl. thermo control	53,549	41,293	-22.9%	180,909	172,610	-4.6%
Semichemical woodpulp	44,328	40,448	-8.8%	203,833	171,003	-16.1%
Cobalt, unwrought	69,977	39,100	-44.1%	315,480	164,163	-48.0%
Pipe/oil line, >16", iron/steel, long sub arc weld	13	1,591	n/a	245,998	144,723	-41.2%
Canola oilcake & low erucic acid, nes	33,391	25,498	-23.6%	145,132	144,287	-0.6%
Pork, nes, frozen	35,361	30,299	-14.3%	120,976	135,963	12.4%
Canola oil and fractions, low erucic acid, refined	76,897	32,595	-57.6%	220,815	135,789	-38.5%
Acyclic hydrocarbons, unsaturated, nes	51,107	44,178	-13.6%	233,357	133,970	-42.6%
Engine and motor parts, nes	58,935	32,639	-44.6%	176,816	131,345	-25.7%
Parts of pumps for liquids	38,235	27,173	-28.9%	136,001	125,473	-7.7%
Light petrolium oil preparation, e.g. motor gasoline	53,655	50,111	-6.6%	197,219	108,727	-44.9%
Petroleum bitumen	16,903	16,362	-3.2%	132,278	103,174	-22.0%
Oriented strand board (OSB), of wood	24,912	28,253	13.4%	90,983	102,515	12.7%
Ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, primary forms	36,719	24,690	-32.8%	156,317	100,425	-35.8%
Total Above	**23,692,017**	**16,426,246**	**-30.7%**	**101,994,031**	**62,929,832**	**-38.3%**
Total	**25,821,379**	**17,828,177**	**-31.0%**	**110,172,866**	**69,064,980**	**-37.3%**

Alberta Finance and Enterprise
4th Floor, Commerce Place
10155-102 Street
Edmonton, AB
Canada T5J 4L6

Telephone: 780.427.6787
Fax: 780.422.0061

Website: **www.albertacanada.com**

© 2010 Government of Alberta

ISSN: 1710-8691
ISSN: 1911-253X (PDF)

You can access Alberta's International Merchandise Exports and the following related department publications on the internet at **www.albertacanada.com/statpub** :

- Monthly Economic Review
- Facts on Alberta
- Inventory of Major Alberta Projects
- Highlights of the Alberta Economy
- Place-to-Place Price Comparison Survey

Printed in Canada